

Douglass and Rose was completed. By the decision to-night the accounting between Douglass and the Regents of the University is settled.

the decision may be summed up as follows: credits to the University the amount from the previous decision against Douglass, \$1,000.00; errors in accounts rendered, \$516.42; and accounts, \$72.07; interest charges on account rendered, \$861.14; total, \$3,175.56. It adds to Douglass the balance due from the last report, \$2,275.05; errors, \$675.12; total, \$5,050.77. Judge Douglass moved for a rehearing on the interest charges, which, by the decision, were charged to Douglass. He will appear at the Supreme Court, whether the rehearing is granted or not.

**CINCINNATI.**  
*Special Dispatch to The Tribune.*

CINCINNATI, O., March 19.—The Republicans here have assumed the offensive in the matter of the McMahon memorial, presented in Congress yesterday, and lively developments are promised in the next few days. The twenty-two prominent Democrats whose names are named to the document were summoned to-day to appear before the United States Grand Jury, at the Grand Jury of Hamilton County, to testify as to the nature of the frauds charged. This movement at once developed the fact that the names on the paper of any weight were ob-

and by false pretenses. John A. Shank telephoned to Washington that he charged no fraud against Butterworth and Young, and signed the paper under a misapprehension. Mr. Bradstreet and others make the same statement. Subpoenas have also been issued to the persons making the affidavits, but they cannot be found. Three-fourths of them are doubtless myths. The Republicans demand that there be a full investigation of the election of the United States senators from Illinois, and to Gen. Garfield asking him to move a reference of the memorial and affidavits to a committee, which should immediately begin an

hury. The Republicans say that if there was and they want the guilty punished, and they upon the Democratic Grand Jury to begin work of investigation. The Democrats who are active in the conspiracy are alarmed at this kind of talk, and are backing down from their position. The scheme has already begun to react upon the party here with damaging effect.

**KANE COUNTY.**  
*Special Dispatch to The Tribune.*

LEWIS, Ill., March 19.—A special election for the County has been called for April 12 to choose a County Clerk and Coroner. N. N.

eln, Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, whom this matter was referred, had entered orders for an election for these officers to be held on April 1, the same day as the annual election, but by reason of delay in posting the notices the matter went over beyond the time required for the twenty days' notice, and the second call set for the 13th prox. The Republicans, who are in the majority in the county, have called for a nominating convention on the 23d inst, for the purpose of selecting the candidates for these positions.

the Board of Supervisors at the last meeting on the 31st inst., appointed H. A. Scott, of Peru, to fill the vacancy in the County Clerk's office, caused by the resignation of the Hon. J. C. Suerwin, elected to Congress; and also appointed Dr. B. B. Smith, of Warsaw, to fill the vacancy in the County Coroner's office, caused by the failure of J. C. Bucher to qualify when elected last fall. Among the candidates for the position are A. deaure, of Aurora; Thomas Mercedita andervisor Earl, of Batavia; Supervisor Miller, St. Charles; C. E. Smiley, of Lodi; E. Cliff, of Elgin; and H. C. Edwards, of Dundee. Judith is a superior man and ought to be

**LOUISIANA.**  
NEW ORLEANS, March 19.—In the Sixth Sen-  
atorial District of this city Judge Don A. Pardee,  
Republican, is elected delegate to the Constitu-  
tional Convention over ex-United States Sena-  
tor Eustis. T. B. Stamps, Republican, is elect-  
ed to the Fourteenth, and W. F. Loan, Repub-  
lican, in the Fifteenth Representative District.  
Republicans carried St. Martin, St. Mary,

**LITTLE ROCK.**—The Greenback Convention nominated for Mayor ex-Consman W. W. Wilshtre: for Police Judge, J. H. Cherry: Treasurer, W. A. Rector (col.). Election April 1.

**THE WEATHER.**  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,  
WASHINGTON, D. C., March 30—1 a. m.—Indi-  
cates: For Tennessee and the Ohio Valley.

ner, clear weather, followed by increasing  
iness and by rain, southeasterly winds,  
ing to southwesterly, and falling barome-  
er the Lower Lake region warmer, cloudy  
her, with rain, southwesterly winds, gener-  
shifting to easterly, and lower pressure.  
er the Upper Lake region, partly cloudy  
her with rain or snow areas, westerly winds  
rally shifting to northeast and northwest,  
in the south portions lower pressure with  
er temperature.  
er the Lower Mississippi and Lower Missouri

Local observations.

hr.	Bar.	Th.	Hum.	Wind.	Vel.	Dir.	Weather
a. m. <td>30.221</td> <td>19</td> <td>85</td> <td>S. W.</td> <td>6</td> <td>...</td> <td>Clear.</td>	30.221	19	85	S. W.	6	...	Clear.
p. m. <td>30.198</td> <td>18</td> <td>79</td> <td>S. W.</td> <td>12</td> <td>...</td> <td>Clear.</td>	30.198	18	79	S. W.	12	...	Clear.
m. <td>30.143</td> <td>17</td> <td>81</td> <td>S. W.</td> <td>10</td> <td>...</td> <td>Clear.</td>	30.143	17	81	S. W.	10	...	Clear.
p. m. <td>30.108</td> <td>41</td> <td>80</td> <td>S. W.</td> <td>11</td> <td>...</td> <td>Clear.</td>	30.108	41	80	S. W.	11	...	Clear.
m. <td>30.130</td> <td>34</td> <td>79</td> <td>S. W.</td> <td>10</td> <td>...</td> <td>Clear.</td>	30.130	34	79	S. W.	10	...	Clear.
p. m. <td>30.120</td> <td>32</td> <td>79</td> <td>S. W.</td> <td>4</td> <td>...</td> <td>Cloudy.</td>	30.120	32	79	S. W.	4	...	Cloudy.

Minimum, 41; minimum, 17.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.					
CHICAGO, March 19—10:10 A. M.					
Time.	Bar.	Th.	Wind.	Hum.	Weather.
5 a. m.	30.20	25	S. W., light.	.....	Fair.
6 "	30.08	15	" "	.....	Clear.
7 "	30.05	47	" "	.....	Cloudy.
8 "	30.01	11	N. E., fresh.	.....	Clear.
9 "	30.14	27	N. W., fresh.	.....	Clear.
10 "	30.25	43	" "	.....	Clear.
11 "	29.83	21	N. E., gen.	.....	Lt. snow.
12 "	30.12	32	S. W., gen.	.....	Cloudy.
1 "	30.22	39	" "	.....	Cloudy.
2 "	30.20	29	S. W., fresh.	.....	Clear.
3 "	30.10	33	E., gentle.	.....	Cloudy.
4 "	30.22	34	" "	.....	Cloudy.
5 morn.	29.97	31	N. E., fresh.	.....	Cloudy.
6 "	30.14	27	S. W., fresh.	.....	Cloudy.
7 City	30.14	24	" "	.....	Cloudy.
8 Minn	30.14	15	N. W., fresh.	.....	Clear.

.....	31.15	3	S. W. fresh	Cloudy.
.....	31.14	4	S. W. fresh	Cloudy.
.....	31.27	2	W. fresh	Clear.
.....	29.69	52	S. E. fresh	Clear.
.....	30.10	10	S. E. fresh	Cloudy.
.....	30.74	34	S. gentle	Clear.
.....	30.69	31	S. E. fresh	Threats.
.....	30.61	41	S. E. gentle	Clear.
.....	30.61	41	S. E. gentle	Fair.
.....	30.16	36	S. E. fresh	Clear.
.....	30.14	34	S. E. fresh	Clear.
.....	30.07	12	S. W. fresh	Clear.
.....	30.10	47	Fresh	Clear.
.....	30.12	45	S. E. fresh	Cloudy.
.....	30.23	44	S. E. fresh	Clear.
.....	30.21	55	S. E. fresh	Clear.
.....	30.28	58	S. E. fresh	Clear.
.....	30.14	81	S. W. fresh	Cloudy.
.....	29.69	43	S. W. fresh	Cloudy.
.....	29.69	43	S. W. fresh	Cloudy.

[illegible]

na from New York,  
w YORK, March 19.—Arrived, the Anchoria  
Glasgow, and the Lesning from Hamburg.  
SDON, March 19.—The steamships Kron-  
Wilhelm, and Ethiopia, from New York,  
arrived out.











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**AMUSEMENTS.**

**McClure's Theatre.**  
 Madison street, between Dearborn and State. Engagement of Strakosky's Italian Opera. "Rigoletto."

**Haverly's Theatre.**  
 Dearborn street, corner of Monroe. Engagement of John McCullough. "The Great Escape."

**Holmes's Theatre.**  
 Randolph street, corner of LaSalle and LaSalle. Engagement of John McCullough. "The Great Escape."

**Hamill's Theatre.**  
 Clark street, corner of Court House. Engagement of W. T. Melville. "The Pirates of the Chesapeake."

**McCormick Hall.**  
 North Clark street, corner of LaSalle. Dismissing Pan-Orchestra. "The Great Escape."

**Academy of Music.**  
 Halsted street, between Madison and Monroe. Variety entertainment.

THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 1879.

The number of the drowned at Szegein is now estimated at 1,600, with 8,200 out of 10,000 houses have been destroyed, and 120,000 persons rendered homeless by the floods.

Two fearful mishaps are noted in the foreign news of this morning. The one, a collision between two ocean steamers in which sixty persons were drowned. The other, an avalanche in the Austrian Tyrol, which destroyed many dwellings and swept to sudden death fifty-five of the inhabitants.

Republicanism is not altogether dead in Louisiana, where a large number of delegates have been elected to the State Constitutional Convention. In New Orleans ex-United States Senator Bristow was defeated by Judge Parker, the Republican candidate, and in numerous districts and parishes good Republican majorities have been polled.

The Democratic House of Representatives at Washington disposed of the "claims" of an immense number of office-seekers by rejecting the Speaker, Clerk, Doorkeeper, Postmaster, and Chaplain of the previous House. This, presumably, carried with it the retention of all the previous subordinate offices, and was a notice to applicants that there was "no vacancy." This adjourns the distribution of patronage to the new Senate, where several thousands of hungry Confeds are to be provided for by that body.

The policy of the Senate Republicans is to make the extra session a short one, and to defer until the winter all legislation except the Appropriation bill for the passage of which the session was convened. This is what the country, tired of political wrangling and anxious for a period of quiet, would approve of, but it is useless to expect that the Democracy will perceive the advantage of letting the people rest from partisan bickering for six or eight months. They will insist upon an extended session, and from the number of bills introduced yesterday, it is evident that they have no intention of foregoing the exercise of their newly-acquired supremacy in the legislative branch of the Government.

Gen. Butler became very severe in his treatment of the Widow Oliver in the course of his cross-examination yesterday. He bullied, and browbeat, and bulldozed the woman in his most fearless and valiant vein. He had a good subject to work upon, for the witness had by her own testimony shown herself to be utterly forgetful; and, besides, she was a woman who had not been forgotten that Gen. Butler once quailed before a woman witness, who had not the benefit of judicial protection from any indignities he might have offered. He had not Mrs. Jenks to deal with yesterday, and his virtuous soul was unhampered in its expression of scorn and indignation at business in a woman.

The President's message is brief, pithy, and pointed. It tells its story and stops. The sting of it is in the last sentence: "Regretting the existence of the emergency which requires a special session of Congress at a time when it is the general judgment of the country that the public welfare will be best promoted by permanency in our legislation and by peace and rest, I commend these few necessary measures to your consideration and attention." The words in italics ought to commit the President in advance to a veto of the political amendments, if they are presented to him, for it is his sworn duty as an officer to do what he can "to promote the public welfare" by the use of the veto power or otherwise as occasion may arise.

In the death of the Rev. Dr. James D. Koven, who was stricken down by apoplexy at Racine yesterday, the Protestant Episcopal Church loses one of its brightest lights and strongest minds. The Church in America had few sons, either in the House of Bishops or among the clergy, more widely known or more admired than was the gifted Warden of Racine College. His election as Bishop of Illinois, and the subsequent canvass of his qualifications and withholding of consent to his consecration by a majority of the Standing Committee by reason of his so-called High-Church proclivities, gave to Dr. Koven marked prominence in the denomination, and his sudden death in the height of his fame and usefulness as minister and educator will be everywhere regarded as a grievous loss.

The desperate determination of the House Democrats to increase their pitifully small majority at whatever disregard of fairness and honesty, is clearly shown in yesterday's action in the Florida contested election case. In violation of all principle and pre-

cedent, and solely on the ground that they are in need of votes, the Democrats voted solid for the seating of HURL, the Democratic claimant, who is now under indictment for complicity in election frauds, and whose certificate of election was canceled by order of the Florida Supreme Court. Unless the Democrats are successful in repealing so much of the Federal Election laws as impose a penalty for fraud, this man HURL is very certain to be tried and convicted. It was by fraud he secured the certificate of election, and it is by the grossest of partisan inconsistency and a consciousness of disregard of law and equity that HURL is given a seat in Congress. The transaction is a fraud and a robbery so palpable that, with one exception, the Greenbackers and Independents, four of them Southern members, joined with the Republicans in voting against the seating of HURL. Nothing so indecent has been done by the Democracy since the election of BELMONT, Republican, and the admission of PATTERSON, Democrat, as Representative from Colorado in the Forty-fifth Congress. Political power purchased at such a price will prove a costly possession.

The Constitution of New Hampshire has recently been changed, and the session of the Legislature last elected will not be held until June. In the meantime, the term of Mr. WADSWORTH, representing the State in the United States Senate, expired in March. The Governor of the State has appointed a gentleman to fill the "vacancy," and when the person appointed presented his credentials his admission was objected to. This is not a new question. We believe the decisions have always been adverse to the power of the Governor to make such appointments, on the ground that under such circumstances no "vacancy" occurs or exists. Mr. WADSWORTH, in his work on the "American Law of Elections," has this to say on the subject: "It is very clear that no appointment can be made to fill a vacancy until the office has once been filled. And, accordingly, it has been held by the Senate of the United States that the words 'All vacancies that may happen during the recess of the Senate' mean such vacancies as occur from death, resignation, or promotion." This does not apply strictly to vacancies in membership in the Senate. The Constitution provides: "And if vacancies happen, by resignation or otherwise, during the recess of the Legislature of any State, the Executive thereof may make temporary appointments until the next meeting of the Legislature, which shall then fill such vacancies." In the case of PHELPS, who was appointed by the Governor of Vermont to fill a vacancy, the Legislature met and adjourned without electing a Senator, and the Senate, after a thorough investigation, decided that PHELPS' appointment expired with the adjournment of the Legislature, leaving the State without one of its Senators. Mr. WADSWORTH, in his book does not mention any case in which it was expressly decided that no "vacancy" exists where there has been a failure by the Legislature to elect for a full term, though the principle has been asserted that there can be no vacancy in an office which has never been filled.

**THE MILITIA BILL.**

The opposition to the Militia bill in the House at Springfield, developed in the debate on Tuesday last, was as extraordinary as it was infamous, and the character of the debate goes to show that the opponents of the bill were not actuated by any motives of economy, or by the belief that a militia is unnecessary, but simply by the natural tendency of all demagogues to pandor to the riotous rabble of the cities.

The provisions of the National Constitution defining the powers of Congress authorize it to call out the militia for the execution of the laws, the suppression of insurrections, the repelling of invasions, and to provide for its organization, arms, and discipline, reserving to the States the appointment of the officers and the authority of training it; and this authorization not only enjoins and encourages the support of the militia, but is almost obligatory in character. The pending bill was therefore in complete harmony with the constitutional provision, both in letter and spirit. In its local application there was no reason for objection. It proposed to make a moderate, indeed a very small, annual appropriation for the support of a State Guard of volunteer militia for the preservation of order, and the protection of life, property, business, and commerce. It is auxiliary and supplementary to the forces of the police, constables, and sheriffs, liable only to be called upon when the latter are unable to preserve the peace. This is all there is to the bill. If it is wrong to maintain the State militia, then it is equally wrong to maintain a police force. If the classes have the right to demand through their political demagogues in the Legislature that they shall not be resisted by the militia whenever they undertake to destroy business and burn property, then they have an equal right to demand that they shall not be coerced by policemen or resisted by constables, and that they shall have full license to carry out their violent and destructive purposes.

No objection can lie to this bill upon the score of money. A well-organized militia is the cheapest and most effective public defense possible to devise and maintain, and the appropriation necessary for its support will never be felt by the people of the State, and even if it were, would not create any discontent, as the title of the money squandered in various corrupt and unnecessary ways would answer all purposes. The money proposed to be squandered on a lot of short-hand reporters would amply support the whole State Guard. The money that might be saved from extravagant appropriations for local institutions would pay the whole expense. One-tenth of the money lost by tax-fighting, by reason of defective tax laws, would far more than support it, and would give the State of Illinois the best equipped militia in the Union.

It is no merit of economy, however, that urges these demagogues to oppose the militia. Ever since the War of the Rebellion, the Democrats have howled at, abused, and sought to destroy the usefulness of the Federal standing army, and contended that the country should depend upon the State militia; and now, when a bill is introduced to encourage the organization and discipline of a State militia, up jump these Democratic demagogues and howl at the militia as "a standing army." Any force is a standing army in their eyes that interferes with the vicious and law-breaking classes, whose votes they covet, and if they dared to go so far they would demand the disbandment of the police force upon the ground that it is a standing army that menaces rioters, and criminals, and the general riff-raff of the cities, and prevents them from making assaults upon the rights and peace of the quiet and respectable element of the community. These dirty demagogues, however,

who are willing that the rights of citizens shall be invaded, and that the public peace and private property shall be left at the mercy of the mob of loafers, vagrants, tramps, criminals, and Communists with whom they wish to curry favor, forget that the young men of the State, who are the friends of the militia, have votes also. They forget that the property-holders, the manufacturers, the merchants, the transportation companies, and every man who believes in obedience to law and desires peace and order, have votes as well as the criminal classes and the Communists. They forget that the farmers of Illinois cannot afford to have the railroads blocked, and freight trains stopped, and property in transit plundered to gratify Communist mobs, and what is more to the point, will not have it. Their memories, however, may be refreshed in a very sudden and startling manner the next time these ruffians undertake to interfere with the execution of the laws and the movement of trade and commerce.

**COLLECTING THE TAXES.**

The bill which has passed the Illinois Senate to further the collection of past-due and unpaid taxes should receive prompt concurrence in the House and become a law. The purpose of the bill is clearly and concisely set forth in the following paragraph: "Sec. 1. Be enacted by the people of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly, That Sec. 230 of the Constitution of the State of Illinois, in relation to the levy and collection of taxes, approved March 30, 1872, be amended so to read as follows: Sec. 230. The County Board may at any time cause to be levied and collected, in the name of the people of the State of Illinois, in any court of competent jurisdiction, for the amount due on forfeited property, and for the amount due on property forfeited to the State shall be prima facie evidence of the liability and regularity of all prior proceedings, and the introduction of such record in evidence shall constitute a prima facie case for the plaintiff."

Under the present system for the collection of taxes there are not enough sales to private purchasers from the delinquent list. In many, perhaps a vast majority, of cases the property is forfeited, to the State, which carries the claim at 10 per cent interest, and enters upon the unpaid tax in the next levy. The next year, very likely, the process is repeated, and so on for a number of years. The result is that the forfeitures have accumulated and are still accumulating at an alarming rate. It amounts to the State, County, and City Governments losing money at 10 per cent interest, while they are selling property and borrowers, and losing this money for an indefinite period, and upon securities which they cannot convert or touch, and then levying extra taxes on the rest of the people to replace the money. Two years ago, THE TRIBUNE suggested such a remedy as is proposed in the above bill, but no measure was then matured. As it is not likely that there will be any thorough or satisfactory revision of the Revenue law at this session, the best relief it is possible to afford is to enable the County Board, representing the County Collector, to sue for the amount due on the forfeited property, and proceed to collect as would any other creditor, and to this judgment against the debtor. The provision that the record of forfeiture shall be evidence of the indebtedness will simplify such suits very much, and render it practicable to take out judgments and executions promptly. In a great majority of cases it is not probable that the suits would be resisted, for the same reasons that the delinquent taxpayers do not resist the applications for judgment prior to forfeiture. The owners of delinquent property in many instances allow the judgments to be taken out and easier than to be forfeited because it is easiest way for them to borrow the money necessary for the payment of the taxes; if these persons lose, however, they will ultimately be subjected to the costs of a suit for debt, and made to pay the original tax with added interest and cost by process of execution, they would probably make an effort in every case to pay the taxes when they become due. Such a law as that cited would be a great relief to the City of Chicago and Cook County in securing payment of the large accumulation of back taxes as well as by promoting the more general and prompt payment of taxes as they currently become due. There seems to be no good reason why the House should not concur in this Senate bill.

**CALIFORNIA'S NEW CONSTITUTION.**

The people of California have a new Constitution submitted to them for adoption or rejection, and are just now discussing its provisions in detail with an earnestness and intelligence that always ought to characterize a community's interest in its organic law. There was a large sprinkling of Working-men, so called, or Independents, or Keeneyites, in the Convention that framed the present instrument, and for that reason it was expected that it would be radically and offensively against such and such and such to be the case, and the extremists in some instances at least, have "built" wiser than they knew. The San-Lito headlines of the DENNIS KEENEY breed did not seem to have their own way to any great extent, and the San Francisco Chronicle, the most widely-circulated daily paper in the State, declares that "Every honest, intelligent man in the State, outside of the Central Pacific Railroad and other monopoly circles, heartily indorses it." And looking at the amended Bill of Rights in the new Constitution, it must be admitted that there are changes for the better and improvements upon old methods that some of the older States will do well to imitate, whenever they reach the point in the course of their municipal life when their present Constitutions must be laid aside and new ones adopted. Mr. JEFFERSON expressed the opinion that most of the States, especially the new ones, would outgrow their Constitutions every thirty years, and find it necessary to abolish, alter, or amend them in many essential particulars in order to keep pace with the growth and prosperity of the people. California has been living under her first Constitution just the length of time that was set by Mr. JEFFERSON's prophecy, and another people have now passed them another time, and it seems to be, in the main, well adapted to their wishes and necessities.

Some of the changes that have been made in the new, as compared with the old, will illustrate what we are saying. Thus, for example, it was the cruel custom in many of the counties of California under the present regime to confine witnesses who could not give bonds for their appearance when wanted in the same room or cells with the worst criminals—a most reprehensible practice, still in vogue in some of the older States. This is forbidden in Sec. 6. The mode of trial by jury is so modified as to meet the popular demand, and justice is to be no longer impeded by one stupid and stubborn jurymen being able to thwart and render nugatory the decision of

his eleven better-informed colleagues. Sec. 7 prescribes that in all civil cases three-fourths of a jury may find a verdict. This is a decided improvement, especially under the present vicious and corrupt system of drawing jurors that is the practice in other States as well as California. It makes the tampering with jurors more difficult and more liable to exposure, as well as more expensive. Under the old rule, it was sufficient to debauch one jurymen in order to defeat the ends of justice and render a verdict impossible; but here it requires the corrupting of four before the same result is reached. It is better for honest litigants and harder for those who expect to escape the iron grip of the law by technicalities and delays.

Sec. 8 allows Grand Jurors to be dispensed with once a year, and provides that prosecutions may proceed by information in cases where such offenses were formerly noticed only by indictment. This is a blow at the whole method of procedure, and shows the tendency of modern civilization to fair play and open-handed dealing. The Grand Jury is doomed to go by the board entirely before long.

Sec. 9 relates to the law of libel, and there is added a clause to the existing law upon that subject which will be found to be a just and wholesome provision. The law of libel in this country in its essential features is, practically, the same that it was three hundred years ago, or when Mr. Lord Coke declared that "The greater the truth the greater the libel." Since Lord Coke's time, however, public sentiment has so far modified the laws of libel as to admit the truth as a factor in all such actions; but it is still susceptible of various changes for the better, for one of which the new Constitution of California makes provision. In that State, and in many others, the complainant in libel against the publisher of a newspaper may make presentment in any underhanded way he pleases in any county in the State, and if he fail in one county he can apply to another, and the publisher is dragged off hundreds of miles from home to be tried before an ignorant or a prejudiced Judge. Under the new Constitution, however, the plaintiff must bring suit either in the county where the paper is published, or in the county where the complainant resided at the time of the publication of the alleged libel, and that is the end of it. In Wisconsin the Supreme Court has held that a paper is published in the county in which it is circulated, and the business without regard to the location of its mails office, and some such provision is needed everywhere for the protection of publishers under such a capricious decision as that.

In nearly all the States it is provided that "Private property shall not be taken for public use without just compensation," but the California Constitution supplements this by adding that such compensation shall be "paid to the Court or the owner, and no right-of-way shall be appropriated to the use of any corporation other than municipal till full compensation shall have been paid to the Court or the owner."

There are other departures proposed in the new instrument as radical as those to which reference is here made, which go to show how certain the judicial system of a people is bound to evolve and keep step with the progress of modern civilization.

**THE NEGRO EXODUS.**

It may have been, and probably was, very unkind and unjust for railroad companies in the West to send agents among the Southern blacks to encourage emigration to Kansas and the Western Territories by exaggerated accounts of the abundance and ease awaiting the emigrants at the end of their journey. But this movement has served, at least, to demonstrate two things which have been in dispute: viz.: (1) That the blacks are prepared and eager to leave the South in large numbers at the bare offer of a living wage; and (2) that the native whites will make earnest efforts to retain them whenever there shall be a practicable scheme for their emigration. These two facts are important in their political as well as their material bearings.

There would be no reason for widespread discontent and eager migration among the Southern blacks if they had been well treated. The climate and the associations of their old homes would have bound them so closely to the South, if they had been treated as their new condition demands, that the prospect of an Eldorado, with free transportation, a farm and a home, would scarcely have attracted them away. The fact that a mere distribution of railway circulars and irresponsible promises of an improved condition have started hundreds and even thousands of negroes from the interior plantations, with a bare possibility that they may secure transportation on the river towards a new home in the West, is a complete answer to the plea of the Southern whites that they are treating the negroes fairly. It is the strongest possible confirmation of the charges brought against the native whites of the South, and shows that they have oppressed the negroes politically and imposed upon them in the business relations. The negro, as a free citizen, is entitled to full protection under the laws for his life, liberty, property, and personal and political rights. Instead of receiving such protection from native Southern rule, he has been denied the exercise of his political convictions; he has been forced to vote under the dictation of the Confederates or not permitted to vote at all; he has been intimidated, whipped, or murdered when he undertook to participate in a public meeting; he has been oppressed by special laws which are made to apply to the blacks alone; and, finally, he has suffered from extortion and the renting and credit system which prevails at the South. These are the reasons why the negroes are ready to quit their homes at the slightest inducements, and why nothing short of starvation will drive them back.

But the anxiety and alarm of the Southern planters at the recent negro exodus are not less significant. All accounts agree that the owners of Southern plantations, and their creditors in St. Louis and other Southern cities, regard a large negro emigration from the South as fatal to their prosperity. The native whites of the South have generally been lived upon negro labor since the War as they have been by the West, and the War has been their means of support and sustenance. They are now laboring with the negroes who have already left them to induce the fugitives to return, and offer free transportation back. They are instructing the negroes who remain that the promises held out for emigration are delusive, as they probably are in most cases. The point of interest in this alarm is that, when the Southern whites once become convinced that the negroes can and will leave them, even under disadvantages, for the inducement of an actual freedom and acknowledgment of citizenship, they will begin to treat the negroes who remain with more consideration. The proper facility for emigration, then, is

probably the best possible solution of the race-conflict at the South.

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**THINKING WITH LIFE-INSURANCE.**

Those belittling legislators who are of the opinion that the shortest and easiest road to popularity is to attack some so-called monopoly will do well to consider the great difference that really exists in the objects, services, and functions of different corporations. Some of the purposes which are sought to be attained by the aggregation of capital and energy for the benefit of the people, the State can now afford to adopt its laws to the civilization of permanent States. The time when it was necessary to give cut-throat mortgages and lightning deeds of trust has departed with the time when men traded under the protection of cocked revolvers and the pressing solicitation of the bowie-knife. It is time that money-lending in Illinois should be reduced to some system based on civilization, and to recognize the fact that it takes two parties to make a bargain, and that all contracts ought to have some mutuality of interest. If this bill passes the House, as it ought to pass, without opposition, then, hereafter, in this State, no man can be divorced from his land without the judgment of a Court to that effect. That is the law now in most of the States, and it should have been adopted in this State years ago. The map-judgment style of seizing estates and selling men out by summary process should have been abolished long since. The Legislature should also pass the kindred bill which modifies the practice of obtaining judgments for the debt and the amount obtained from a sale of the mortgaged premises. The pending bill simply provides that, when a judgment of this kind is taken, the proceeding shall have the effect of opening the foreclosure for the term of two years, during which the debtor may redeem the property. The merits of this bill have been discussed so often that it is not necessary to say more on the subject, but the two bills are equally just and expedient, and should certainly be passed at this session.

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